

## **Much Birch Parish council**

Ward member report, September 2015

### **Hit and run on Tump Lane**

For the last couple of months I have been speaking to concerned residents of Tump Lane regarding excessive speeding and the use of Tump Lane by HGV lorries as a cut through. I have had meetings with both Rosemary Rigby and Keith James on the subject and our intention had been to lobby HCC for some changes.

Following on from the accident on Tump Lane on 21<sup>st</sup> August I spoke with Paul Rone (PR) (cabinet member for roads) as well as Jesse Norman. PR's response is below:

*Evening David*

*Now that there has been a RTA in which there was a KSI (killed or seriously injured) it's a game changer. Tump Lane was used as a getaway route after a vehicle theft and Mrs Preedy was badly injured. We can now move the need for enforcement up the ladder a few notches to say the least, however, the request for remedial work will still have to come from the PC to carry the localities clout. If you would like me to attend a PC meeting please let me know.*

*Paul*

The correct procedure is for the parish council to request whatever changes they see fit, perhaps a reduction in the speed limit to 30mph and some form of either weight restriction or indeed traffic calming (road narrowing?).

I have also been in touch with Lowri Anderson (our police liaison) and she has suggested that we ask the West Mercia Traffic management advisor [robert.haynes@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:robert.haynes@westmercia.pnn.police.uk) to attend our next PC meeting.

### **Planning**

**Wormelow store** – Permission has been granted for the store

**Larkrise** – I am awaiting an update from the council on this one

**Court farm** – There maybe a conflict at this site between the request for 4 additional chicken sheds and the homes that have been given planning permission due to odour issues...

### **Kings Thorn bus stop**

Betty Philpott raised a concern that the solid stone bus shelter on King's Thorn was going to be replaced by a modern green plastic and glass bus stop. I have spoken to Paul Williamson, who has updated me that they are still looking at the replacement of the bus stop and are talking through options with the Much Dewchurch PC and BBLP. They are currently investigating the roofing material of the shelter to confirm the material that has been used. There will be a further site meeting that I will be invited to attend before any decisions are made.

## **Council launches priorities and budget consultation**

Herefordshire Council has launched its priorities and budget consultation for 2016/17 and is asking residents to participate and have their say.

The joint priorities and budget consultation will run until Friday 9 October and is asking residents to first of all rate the council's priorities in terms of what they believe are the most and least important areas we should focus our resources on. Briefings for all members and for town and parish councils were held during July and a series of public engagement events are scheduled through the summer.

To find out more and participate in the consultation, please visit [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/budgetconsultation2016](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/budgetconsultation2016)

## **Increase in recycling rates**

Herefordshire residents have increased recycling rates in the county since the introduction of alternate weekly collections in November 2014.

In a report to the General Overview and Scrutiny Committee the waste management team reports a 5.34% increase in recycling; the equivalent to 121 tonnes of recycling per month. The amount of waste going to landfill has reduced by 7%, which is the equivalent to 293 tonnes per month. The move to alternate weekly collection had also delivered annual savings of £500k and there had been no noticeable increase in fly-tipping. The figures are based on the first six months of the new scheme.

## **Wellbeing Innovation Fund**

Herefordshire Council is inviting bids for grant funding from the county's voluntary and community sector, to pay for exciting and creative projects that can improve people's lives.

The Wellbeing Innovation Fund was launched in November last year. It offers grants of between £5k and £20k for projects that aim to improve people's health and quality of life, particularly those who are vulnerable, at risk of social isolation or loneliness.

Since the launch in November, 11 awards were made across the county to a total value of £147k. Creative ideas submitted were broad, ranging from a men's shed project targeting older men and encouraging them to get out and meet others with similar interests, to a befriending project where lonely people are supported to get out and about by a band of volunteers.

Further details are available from - Alex Fitzpatrick on 01432 383038.

## **Useful links**

Maps and timetables for grass cutting and pot holes are now available on the Council's website

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/grass-cutting>

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/maintenance/potholes>

Problems can be reported using

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/footpaths-byways-and-bridleways/cg-report-prov-problem>

David Harlow 01.09.15